

NEWS



Fran Pavley

Assemblymember, 41st District

A MONTHLY ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER TO THE 41st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
(Including Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Encino, Malibu, Hidden Hills, Lake Sherwood, Oak Park, Pacific Palisades, Port Hueneme, South Oxnard, Santa Monica, Tarzana, Topanga, Westlake Village, and Woodland Hills.)

JULY 2006
SPECIAL CLIMATE CHANGE EDITION

Friday, July 21, Santa Monica College "The Future of Alternative Fuels in California"

On Friday, July 21 at the Santa Monica College Concert Hall, 1900 Pico Blvd., from 10:00 a.m. to noon I will be co-chairing what should be a very interesting hearing with State Senator Sheila Kuehl. It will include a panel of experts in the field discussing ways to increase the use and production of alternative fuels in order to reduce dependency on oil, and reduce air and global warming pollution.

A wide range of alternative fuel vehicles will also be on display. The City of Santa Monica will bring their Prius plug-in hybrid, CNG, and biodiesel cars. American Honda is bringing a Honda Civic CNG car and their FCX hydrogen fueled vehicle. And Community Fuels will have their Mercedes e320 biodiesel car on display. Parking is free in Campus Lot #1.

Longer wildfire and hurricane seasons.

Dramatic weather patterns. Melting glaciers.

More smog and worse air quality. Had enough?

We may be seeing a sneak preview of just some of the impacts of global warming. One of the biggest disappointments of my three terms in the Assembly has been the lack of political leadership at the Federal level in dealing with this global issue. Instead, the political clout of the oil industry and the automobile companies has dominated, killing any initiatives to address this issue. *(continued on the next page)*

The U.S. has 5% of the world's population, yet contributes 25% of its greenhouse gas emissions - the main contributor to global warming - generated by the burning of fossil fuels like oil, coal and natural gas. Renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and geothermal; conservation and the implementation of energy efficiency programs; or the diversification of our fuel supply with cleaner alternative fuels are just three of our options to reduce the global-warming-related air pollution.

California is the world's 12th largest contributor of greenhouse gas emissions, and has been in the forefront of helping to help solve this global problem.

AB 32 - "California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006"

With rising gasoline prices, the need for a secure energy future, and a moral responsibility to do our fair share to reduce our carbon footprint, I introduced AB 32 last year to take the next step needed to coordinate emission reductions of greenhouse gases and climate change activity in state government.

AB 32 would direct the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to do the following:

- Adopt regulations on or before January 1, 2008, establishing a program to require the reporting and verification of statewide greenhouse gas emissions, and to monitor and enforce compliance.
- Set a limit or cap on those who contribute emissions to begin to reduce their emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020, which would be 25% below forecasted levels. This first-in-the-nation cap on emissions will send a strong market signal to businesses that want to invest in clean technologies and alternative fuels. California can and should be the home of these new clean technologies.
- Require CalEPA to establish an interagency taskforce to coordinate investments of state money and state programs that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, promote economic growth, make information publicly available to assist sources of greenhouse gases to meet the requirements of the bill, and to coordinate planning and the state's response to changing climate conditions as they impact state water supplies, air quality, environmental and public health conditions, and the state's economy.

AB 32 passed out of the Assembly and is now in the Senate. On June 26, it passed out of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee by a 5-2 vote. In August the entire Senate must approve this bill before it goes back to the Assembly for concurrence on any Senate amendments, and then on to the Governor.

AB 32 needs your help.

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez is a joint author of AB 32. He, along with 40 other legislators and close to 100 cities and organizations, are on record in support of this landmark measure. The opposition, however, led by big oil companies and the California Chamber of Commerce is lobbying hard to kill the bill. There will be incredible pressure placed on legislators to vote against AB 32. Please encourage your City Council, Board of Supervisors, members of Congress, civic, health, forward-thinking businesses, environmental organizations, and others to send letters or e-mails in support of AB 32 to their state legislators and to the Governor.

Here are two websites that can provide you with more information and an easy link to forward your support for this important legislation. Thank you!

www.environmentaldefense.org/go/ca/globalwarming
www.nrdc.org/globalwarming/ncalifornia.asp

Global Warming Case Goes to U.S. Supreme Court

With almost the entire world's scientific community now agreeing that the debate over global warming is over, the Bush Administration continues to resist limiting CO2 vehicle emissions that cause global warming as authorized by the federal Clean Air Act, clinging to the assertion that CO2 is not a pollutant, and suggesting that industry handle the issue on a voluntary basis. A 155-page report just released by a panel convened by the National Academies states that "an array of evidence" supports the main thrust of the report, which is that global warming is real, and that planetary warming over the past 25 years has exceeded any peaks recorded since 1600, and possibly even since the year 900.

The ten states that have adopted clean car regulations that conform to my landmark 2002 bill, AB 1493, filed a lawsuit that has now worked its way up to the Supreme Court based on a sharply divided federal appeals court decision impacting their right to adopt their own state regulations since the federal government will not do it on a national level.

Plaintiffs contend that this issue goes to the heart of what the U.S. EPA's statutory responsibility is and that the federal Clean Air Act mandates regulation. The administration maintains that CO2 is not a pollutant and that the issue is "scientifically uncertain."

California is one of the plaintiffs, along with Connecticut, Illinois, Maine, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington. A number of cities have joined the lawsuit, as well as the Union of Concerned Scientists, Greenpeace, and Friends of the Earth. The Supreme Court's ultimate decision as to whether the Bush administration must regulate CO2 is considered to be one of the most significant decisions it will make on the environment. Richard Blumenthal, plaintiff Connecticut's Attorney General, has been quoted as saying that "At stake in this case is nothing less than the survival of the earth as we know it."



NPS ParkLINK Shuttle Connects to the World!

Well, maybe not quite... but effective July 1, the National Park Service's ParkLINK Shuttle buses that run on a continuous loop through the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area launched their connection to the vast MTA bus system via Metro 161.

You can take the state-of-the-art new Orange Line bus from any of its 13 stops across the San Fernando Valley to the Warner Center Transit Hub. Catch the Metro bus #161 at either 9:53 a.m. or 10:53 a.m. Get off at the Agoura Road stop in Calabasas and board the ParkLINK shuttle.

This exciting new way to experience the beauty of the Santa Monicas has been a real hit, with a large number of riders staying on the air-conditioned bus and enjoying the entire scenic loop from the comfort of their seats. You can also get on and off the bus all day long to walk or hike. Or load your bike on to the convenient bike rack and do some mountain biking. The ParkLINK stops at Malibu Creek State Park, Tapia Park, Backbone Trailhead, Malibu Lagoon State Beach, Malibu Bluffs Park, Pepperdine University, Corral Canyon, Solstice Canyon, Point Dume, Zuma Beach, Peter Strauss Ranch, and Paramount Ranch.

Trip planning and other information can be found at www.metro.net.

California Wildlife Center

The California Wildlife Center (CWC) is a nonprofit organization established in 1998 tucked away in Malibu to care for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife, and with the intent of releasing as many of them as possible back into the wild. On July 9, it held its 9th Annual "The Wild Brunch" fiesta, and honored long-time stage and screen actress, Gretchen Wyler. Although she may be better known for her performances in such Broadway productions as "Guys and Dolls," "Damn Yankees," and "Bye, Bye Birdie," among countless other roles over her 50-year acting career, the CWC recognized her 40 years of devotion to animal rights, including being the first woman to sit on the ASPCA's Board of Directors. She now lives on a large ranch where she rescues and keeps horses.

The brunch was capped by the dramatic and emotional release of a rehabilitated Red-tailed Hawk.



For more information about CWC and their work, go to www.californiawildlifecenter.org, which also includes important direction on what you should and should not do if you come upon wildlife that appears to need help.

New Housing for Ventura County Farmworkers

On July 8, I joined Oxnard Mayor Tom Holden, Assemblymember Pedro Nava, and Paul Chavez, son of Cesar Chavez, for the Grand Opening of "Villa Cesar Chavez" in Oxnard. This is a beautiful 52-home development that will provide quality affordable housing to farmworker families. It is a project led by Cabrillo Economic Development, funded through the Ventura County Community Foundation's Fund for Farm Worker Housing and other donors.

Although agriculture is one of Ventura County's most important economic resources, generating over \$1 billion annually, for most of the 20,000 Ventura County farmworkers and their families decent and safe housing is out of reach. Two-thirds of them are permanent county residents.
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No one would identify this beautiful project as “affordable” housing. It includes a courtyard fountain, hand-painted tiles done by the children, and Craftsman-style architecture. Volunteers from Habitats for Humanity helped with the construction.

The Ag Futures Alliance of Ventura County is a collaborative forum for members of the agricultural, environmental, and civic communities to develop strategies for preserving agriculture as an essential part of life in Ventura County. To learn more, visit their website at www.agfuturesalliance.net/ventura.

Fourth of July Parade in Pacific Palisades

For probably at least the seventh consecutive year, I participated in the Independence Day Parade in the Palisades. The parade grows in size every single year, and had well over 200 entries of all kinds this time. Two of my favorites were the “Patriotic Pups” of all canine makes and models, and the “Pali Kids Protect the Earth” eco-float, with kids carrying signs reminding people to “Recycle,” “Protect,” “Conserve,” and generally to care for our planet. The great pop singer from the 1940s, Patti Page, was this year’s Grand Marshal. Always an inspiring and energizing day in the Palisades.



Upcoming Events

- July 29, Malibu – “Malibu Arts Festival”
Please stop by my table if you can at the 35th Annual Arts Festival, sponsored by the Malibu Chamber of Commerce - 23555 Civic Center Way. Although it’s an all-weekend event, I’ll be there on Saturday, July 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with informative brochures and other materials, but mostly to answer any questions that you have and to hear what’s important to you.
- August 6, Pacific Palisades – Farmer’s Market
On Sunday, August 6, I’ll have a table at the colorful Farmer’s Market at Swarthmore and Sunset Blvd., and will be there between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The Palisades Farmers Market is a great shopping experience, and you’re almost guaranteed to find one of your friends and neighbors there.

Assemblymember Pavley's Committee Assignments

Budget Committee
Education Committee
Transportation Committee
Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

Chair, Budget Subcommittee #3 on Resources
Chair, Select Committee on Air and Water Quality
Select Committee on Runaway Production
Select Committee on Ports
Select Committee on Title IX
Joint Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland Security

Legislative Advisory Committee – Wildlife Conservation Board
Co-Chair, Environmental Caucus
Legislative Advisory Committee – California Coastal Conservancy
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Board
Member, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Member, Commission on the Status of Women

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If you know of anyone who you think would like to receive these newsletters, please e-mail their name, mailing address and e-mail address, and I'll be happy to add them to my list.

